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ITALY IS ATTACKED FROM AIR AND SEA

Lava Again Spreads Terror

LASSEN IS SPROUTING DEATH

Timber Swept From Mountain Side, Forming Dam Which Diverts Creek

PEOPLE AGAIN FLEE FOR THEIR LIVES

Farms Ruined By Cement Like Covering, Owners Facing Destitution

LASSEN volcano blazed out last Monday in its third destructive eruption, and its flood of boiling lava swept down the sides of the peak upon the farming community surrounding. The outbreak came shortly 11 o'clock. Heretofore, the eruptions have come about 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

FARMERS FLEE

Farmers who had returned to their homes in the hope that danger was over, again fled for their lives. Their farms are conceded to be ruined, for the lava which was at first thought to be merely enriching mud, hardened like cement as soon as it cooled. Farms are covered from two to four feet deep. Farm buildings and fences in many instances have been swept away. Logs swept down the side of Lassen peak have formed a 10 foot dam which has diverted Manzanita creek from its course, and threatens to add a flood to the present terrors of the people.

"ROARED LIKE 1000 STORMS."

George Roadman of Sacramento, who witnessed Saturday's terrific eruption from a distance of 20 miles, arrived at Redding, Calif., after a difficult automobile ride.

"The eruption was preceded," he said, "by a rumbling and roaring that rose in a tremendous crescendo until the outburst reached its greatest height. It sounded like a thousand storms rolled into one. The

huge pall of smoke appeared to hang almost over me. Big boulders were thrown hundreds of feet into the air. When the eruption was at its height, a sharp earthquake shook the earth, and terrorized the villages at Burney."

ASHES COVER TRAINS.

Two Western Pacific Overland trains which arrived at Oakland, Calif., late Sunday night, were covered with ashes and mud by Lassen peak.

Members of the crew reported they first noticed the baptism of ashes near Winnemucca, Nev., nearly 200 miles east of Lassen. When 100 miles from the mountain they said, the trains were enveloped in an ashen cloud and forced to decrease speed because the headlights could not penetrate it.

Postal Fund Has

\$6,500,000 Deficit

Washington, May 25.—Postal revenues for the half of the current fiscal year which ends July 1, show a deficit of practically \$6,500,000.

Figures issued by the postoffice department show the expenses of postal establishment increased more than \$9,000,000 as against the corresponding period last year, while receipts decreased almost \$500,000.

Postmaster General Burleson said the deficit was directly attributed to the European war which interrupted the normal growth of postal revenues.

Who says these are not busy days for Grandfather Wilson?

KNOW THY COUNTRY

I—Introductory

"Know America" is a slogan that should ring out from every school room, office, farm and shop in this nation. No man can aspire to a higher honor than to become a capable citizen, and no one can merit so distinguished a title until he is well informed of the resources, possibilities and achievements of our country.

This is a commercial age and civilization is bearing its most golden fruit in America. We are noted for our industrial achievements as Egypt was noted for her pyramids; Jerusalem for her religion; Greece for her art; Phoenicia for her fleets; Chaldea for her astronomy and Rome for her laws. Likewise we have men who will go down in the world's history as powerful products of their age. For, standing at the source of every gigantic movement that sways civilization is a great man. The greatest minds travel in the greatest direction and the commercial geniuses of this age would have been the sculptors, poets, philosophers, architects, and artists of earlier civilizations.

As Michael Angelo took a rock and with a chisel hewed it into the image of an angel that ever beckons mankind upward and onward, Hill took the desert of the Northwest and with bands of steel made it blossom like a rose, dotted the valleys with happy homes and built cities in waste places.

As Gutenberg took blocks of wood and whittled them into an alphabet and made a printing press that flashed education across the continent like a ray of light upon a new born world, McCormick took

a bar of iron and bent it into a reaper and with one sweep of his magic mind broke the shackles that enslaved labor of generations yet unborn, and gave mankind freedom from drudgery, and lifted the human race into a higher zone of life.

As Nelson organized the English navy and made England mistress of the sea, enabling the British Isles to plant her flag upon every continent washed by the ocean's waves, and to make footstools of the Islands of every water, Morgan organized a banking system that has made America master of the world's finances, brought Kings to our cashier's windows, the nations of the earth to our discount desks and placed under the industries of this nation a financial system as solid as the Rock of Gibraltar.

There is no study quite so interesting as progress; no sound so magic as the roar of industry and no sight so inspiring as civilization in action. A full realization of America's part in the great events of the world past, present and future will thrill every human heart with pride, patriotism and faith in Republican institutions.

Through the courtesy of the Agricultural and Commercial Press Service, the readers of this paper will be permitted to study America; her agricultural, manufacturing and mineral development, mercantile, banking and transportation systems which are the wonder of the world. The first article of the series will deal with transportation and will appear at an early date.

Artesia Man Meets a Most Horrible Fate

Roy Compton, a young man working on the government dam, seventeen miles south of Artesia, met a horrible death Tuesday night, when he plunged into the spill-way and was drowned. His body was battered to a pulp by the torrent rushing from the open head gates over the rocks and falls.

Early Wednesday morning the body was recovered from the river at the wagon bridge over the Pecos nearly a mile from the point where he had fallen into the water. Compton, in company with a number of other government employees, was removing rocks from around the dam where they had washed during the big flood a few weeks ago. He was below the dam, just in front of the head gates, which were all open. He pulled a heavily loaded wheelbarrow along the edge of the spill-way a short distance from the head gates and when close to the edge the wheelbarrow upset. The handles caught Compton and threw him over the edge, into the rushing waters. He was whirled to the surface once and cried out for help. The other men tried to reach him, a

shovel being extended to him, hoping he could take hold the current had dragged him under again and he went down the stream.

Compton was a new man on the works, having been at the McMillan dam but a short time. He leaves a wife but no children. Mrs. Compton's parents live in Oriental, a cement works town a few miles below the dam.

Stove, Oil, Explosion Tucson Woman Dies

Tucson, Ariz., May 25.—Mrs. C. Dusenbury, wife of a Southern Pacific employe, died from burns received in a kerosene explosion.

It was said she was using kerosene to kindle a fire in the kitchen stove, when the explosion occurred. Her clothing caught fire and she ran into the yard where neighbors, attracted by her screams, turned a garden hose upon her. Her body had been terribly burned, and she died at a hospital some hours later.

The reply to the American note has been somewhat delayed, but it should be remembered that the kaiser is fairly busy these days and cannot be expected to keep up with his correspondence as in ordinary times.

AUSTRIA STRIKES FIRST BLOW

Warships Bombard Adriatic Coast; Are Routed By The Italian Torpedo Boats

AIRSHIPS RAID ITALIAN COAST

Anti-air Craft Guns Open Up On the Austrian Flyers, Which Then Retreat

AUSTRIA has delivered the first blow in the warfare which opened between Austria and Italy. A fleet of Austrian warships of minor character bombarded the Adriatic coast of Italy until forced to withdraw. Practically at the same time an Austrian attack from the air launched. Aeroplanes bombarded the arsenal at Venice, and then swept over virtually the entire Italian east coast as far south as Barletta, a distance of 350 miles. Bombs were dropped on several towns, but anti-aircraft guns routed the Austrian flyers.

ITALIAN OFFICIAL STATEMENT. All the foregoing was narrated in an Italian statement transmitted here by the correspondent of the Havas agency, and is as follows: "It was foreseen that on the declaration of war, offensive actions would occur against our Adriatic coast, with the purpose of seeking moral effect rather than attaining a military purpose. But we are able to prepare for these and render their duration short.

TEXT OF DECLARATION. The text of the Italian declaration of war, as presented to Austria-Hungary by the duke of Avarna, and quoted in news dispatches via Copenhagen, follows:

"Vienna, May 23, 1915. "Conformably with the orders of his majesty, the king, his august sovereign, the under-

signed ambassador of Italy has the honor to deliver to his excellency, the foreign minister of Austria-Hungary, the following communication:

"Declaration has been made, as from the fourth of this month, to the imperial and royal government, of grave motives for which Italy, confident in her good right, proclaimed to be annulled and henceforth without effect, her treaty of alliance with Austria-Hungary as having already been violated by the Austro-Hungarian imperial and royal government, and therefore that Italy resumed her liberty of action in this respect.

"The government of the king, firmly resolved to provide by all means at its disposal for safeguarding Italian rights and interests, cannot fail in its duty to take against every existing and future menace, measures which events impose upon it for the fulfillment of national aspirations.

"His majesty, the king, declares himself from tomorrow in a state of war with Austria-Hungary.

Mexican Says He Was Beaten By Juarez Soldiers

Because he would not buy a soldier a drink, Leopoldo Resa, a Mexican, was thrown into the Juarez jail and badly beaten with swords Monday night, according to the story he told the police Tuesday.